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No. 16,923

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SONGKONG, FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 1917.

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Hongkong, April 11, 1912.

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Residence: 10, Cantonment Road, Kowloon, Hongkong.

Hongkong, April 1, 1912.

WONG PING WA, Manager.

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## THE WAR.

### LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

#### THE WESTERN FRONT.

FRENCH ADVANCE NEAR  
BIXCHOOPE.

LONDON, August 9.  
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig  
reports:—  
The French advanced to the north-  
west of Bixchoope.  
Our fire drove off an enemy party  
to the north of Roex.

#### THE RUSSIAN FRONT

THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE  
GERMAN ADVANCE.

LONDON, Aug. 9.  
The Times' Odessa Correspondent  
states that anti-aircraft measures are  
being taken there.  
The belief is growing that the  
Odessa, Bessarabian and Podolian  
harvests are the main objective of the  
German advance.

AN ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEM IN  
RUSSIA.

PETROGRAD, Aug. 9.

Deputations from the Ukraine As-  
sembly waited on M. Nekrasoff and  
urged the incorporation with Ukraine  
of the governments of Poltava, Podolia,  
Volhynia, Chernigoff, Kharkoff, Ekater-  
inoslav, Kherson, Taurida and Bessarabia.  
M. Nekrasoff objected to the  
incorporation of Bessarabia where there  
was a "Little Russian" population of only  
19 per cent but the Delegates insisted  
on the ground that Bessarabia was sur-  
rounded by the other Ukraine Govern-  
ments. A plebiscite will be taken.

#### A RUSSIAN WAR CABINET.

LONDON, August 9.

Reuter states that M. Kurensky  
intends to form a War Cabinet  
which will include M. Terestchenko,  
M. Nekrasoff, M. Avksientieff and  
M. Savinkoff.

The Cabinet will meet daily and  
the Generalissimo will attend when  
available.

#### AN UNFOUNDED ALLEGATION AGAINST A MINISTER.

PETROGRAD, August 9.

The Minister of Justice has in-  
vestigated the charges against M.  
Tcheroff, that he contributed to a  
Russian journal in Switzerland  
financed by Germany, and finds they  
are baseless.

M. Tcheroff will resume his  
former post in the Cabinet.

#### SENATOR ROOT'S MISSION TO RUSSIA.

WASHINGTON, August 9.

Senator Root's mission to Russia  
has returned to Washington.

The members declare that the out-  
look in Russia is encouraging, and  
the chief duty of the United States  
was to convince the Russians that  
America was in the war to a finish.

#### ESSEN MINERS DEMAND PEACE BY AGREEMENT.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 9.

A mass meeting of 8,000 miners was  
held at Essen to discuss food and  
wages questions.

The meeting developed into a de-  
monstration in favour of peace by  
agreement. A resolution was passed  
demanding the Reichstag vigorously to  
push its resolution to this effect.

#### THE SUBMARINE PIRACY.

FRENCH SHIPPING REPORT.

PARIS, Aug. 9.

The weekly shipping report states:—

Arrivals 948

Departures 924

Vessels sunk (over 1,000 tons) 4

Vessels sunk (under 1,000 tons) 12

Vessels unsuccessfully attacked 6

#### THE BRITISH FLEET.

A FORCE WHICH STUNS THE  
IMAGINATION.

PARIS, August 9.

A Correspondent of *Le Journal*,  
who has been visiting the British Fleet,  
says that the spectacle is so vast that  
the eye cannot take in the whole  
panorama at one glance. Important  
new units have been massed ready  
to spring on the enemy should the  
latter issue from his lair. The  
Fleet constitutes a weapon, the force of  
which stuns the imagination. The soul  
of the British Navy harbours but one  
aspiration—one determination—to meet  
the Germans once again, face to face, in  
a decisive battle from which the victor  
only will return. The Fleet will not  
hesitate to run great risks to account  
for the enemy when the fight comes.  
The officers generally are of the opinion  
that the Germans, when beaten on land,  
will not allow the war to finish without  
staking their all and accepting a great  
naval battle.

#### THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE.

THE ATTITUDE OF BRITISH  
LABOUR ORGANIZATIONS.

LONDON, Aug. 9.

The Miners' Federation Executive,  
last evening, decided to postpone  
its decision relative to the Stockholm  
Conference until the Labour Party  
Executive's report is announced at to-  
morrow's conference. The Miners will  
then move an adjournment of the  
Conference in order to give the  
Delegates an opportunity to consult  
their Associations.

It is expected that a Seamen's Con-  
ference will be held in London on  
August 17, at which it is anticipated a  
resolution will be passed to prevent the  
Socialist Delegates going to Stockholm.  
The Conference will include repre-  
sentatives from Holland, Scandinavia,  
the British Colonies and the United  
States.

#### AN ALLIED CONFERENCE.

The Conference of the Allies, at  
Downing Street, has closed.  
It is understood that the question of  
the Stockholm Conference was discussed.

#### THE GREEK CHAMBER.

A STORMY SITTING.

ATHENS, Aug. 9.

The Chamber has had a stormy sitting.  
An opposition member, denouncing  
the Press restrictions, was shouted down.  
M. Venizelos pleaded for the freedom  
of opposition criticism but he emphasised  
that the Government was determined to  
crush any attempt at reaction.

Parliament has passed Martial Law.

#### THE RAILWAY STRIKE IN SPAIN.

MADRID, Aug. 9.

It is officially stated that attempts  
to settle the railway strike have failed.  
The Government will maintain the  
services.

#### CANADA AND CONSCRIPTION.

OTTAWA, August 9.

The Senate has rejected, by 34 votes  
to 25, the amendment to the Con-  
scription Bill exempting divinity students.

LATER.  
The Senate has passed the Con-  
scription Bill.

#### EXPLOSION AT AN AUSTRIAN MUNITION WORKS.

ZURICH, Aug. 9.

There has been an explosion in a  
munition works near Cracow. Forty  
eight workmen were killed and  
many injured.  
Hundreds of doors and windows in  
Cracow were blown out.

(Continued on Page 2.)

## The Chinese Mail

華字日報

THE LATEST CHINESE POLITICAL AND  
COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

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## INTIMATIONS

BRITISH TRADERS INSURANCE  
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MESSRS. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE  
have this day been appointed  
GENERAL AGENTS of the above  
Company for Fire Insurance for Hong-  
kong and China.

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
C. H. P. HAY,  
per pro. General Manager.  
Hongkong, August 8, 1917. 2-47

THE HONGKONG STEEL FOUNDRY  
CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE SEVENTH ORDINARY  
YEARLY MEETING OF SHARE-  
HOLDERS in the above Company, will  
be held at the Company's Office, 57,  
Queen's Road, Hongkong, on  
WEDNESDAY, August 15th, 1917, at  
11.30 A.M. for the purpose of presenting  
the Report of the General Managers,  
and Statement of Accounts to May 31st,  
1917.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the  
Company will be CLOSED from  
August 10th to 15th, 1917, both days  
inclusive.

GORDON & CO.  
General Managers.  
Hongkong, August 4, 1917. 2-13

UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.

MATRICULATION, SENIOR AND  
JUNIOR LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

THESE EXAMINATIONS will com-  
mence on MONDAY, December  
10th, 1917.

Arrangements will be made to hold  
the Examinations at any town where a  
sufficient number of Candidates offer  
themselves. Candidates who wish to  
be examined at any other place than  
Hongkong or Shanghai must apply to  
the Registrar on or before September  
2nd, 1917.

Forms of entry and all particulars can  
be obtained on application to the  
Registrar, The University, Hongkong.

The entry form, duly filled in, must  
reach the Registrar, together with the  
fee (Ten Dollars, Hongkong Currency)  
on or before October 2nd, 1917.

Four Cash Prizes will be awarded on  
the results of the Matriculation Exami-  
nation, provided that Candidates of  
sufficient merit offer themselves.

Candidates who secure cash prizes  
must enter the University on January  
2nd, 1918, and must reside in one of  
the hostels directly managed by the  
University.

The Examinations will be conducted  
according to the "Regulations for the  
Senior and Junior Local Examinations  
and for the Matriculation Examination,  
1917."

Hongkong, August 9, 1917. 2-22

SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

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PAPER PULP MILL.

Sited at VIETRY, (TONKIN).

THIS MILL is built upon a property  
measuring 141,000 sq. meters, and  
consists of the following buildings and  
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1. EIGHT brick-buildings, with iron  
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roofs. Two sheds with corrugated  
iron roof.
2. PLANT & MACHINERY of the  
kind required for making Paper-  
pulp.
3. TWO European residences.

The above Property will be sold by  
Public Auction at PHU THO (Tonkin),  
on the 1st day of September, 1917.  
RESERVE PRICE \$100,000. (One  
Hundred Thousand Dollars Indo-China  
Currency).

Further particulars may be obtained  
on application to the undersigned.

Ch. DE LANSALUT,  
Solicitor for the Liquidator  
Haiphong.

Hongkong, August 4, 1917. 2-19

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INDIA'S "HOARDED  
WEALTH."AGGREGATE PROBABLY NOT  
ABOVE £100,000,000.

An article by Mr. A. C. Chatterjee,  
I.C.S., appears in a recent issue of "The  
Indian," and from it we take the  
following:

The belief that there are in India  
almost innumerable hoards of coined  
and uncoined silver is based on the steady  
flow of the precious metals into the  
country during the last two thousand  
years. References to this fact are to be  
traced as far back as the time of Pliny.  
However, the economic history of India  
is yet unstudied and unwritten. There  
has so far been little attempt to piece  
together the isolated facts that are avail-  
able relating to the external trade  
of the different States that con-  
stituted India in the early and medieval  
ages. Attention has been directed  
mainly to the seaborne trade of India  
with the West, whence the precious  
metals came; but comparatively little  
is known to the general reader, or even  
to the student, with regard to the  
immense trade that was always carried  
on between India and the countries on  
its land frontier; or between India and  
the Eastern Archipelago, Burmah, Malay,  
Siam, China, and Japan by sea. There  
was a keen demand in Western countries  
for forest and agricultural products of  
tropical India, and also for its industrial  
commodities, like muslin and other  
cotton goods. No corresponding  
demand existed in India for the produce  
of the West.

On the other hand, the silks of China  
and Japan, the valuable spices of the  
Archipelago, the mineral products, the  
horses, and cattle, the wool and the  
pashm of High Asia had an extensive  
market among the princes and the people  
of India. So far as can be judged, India  
had little to export in the shape of her  
own products to these countries. The  
international obligations thus arising  
could not have been mutually adjusted  
without the actual export of gold and  
silver because there was no direct com-  
merce between Europe and Egypt and  
the Far East. It is, therefore, probable  
that a considerable portion of the metals  
that India received from the West in  
exchange for her goods was re-exported,  
partly by sea to the countries and islands  
of the Far East and partly by land to  
the regions beyond the Himalaya and  
the Hindu Kush mountains.

A survival of this state of things is to  
be traced even at the present day, when  
the landborne trade of India is almost  
negligible compared with her mari-  
time trade, and when the character of  
her trade intercourse with Eastern Asia  
has also completely changed. As pointed  
out by Mr. J. M. Keynes in his work on  
Indian Currency and Finance, "The  
recorded statistics of trade overland  
show a large balance against India,  
which is probably made up by an unrec-  
orded export of gold, silver, bullion and rupees."  
This process has been going on for  
centuries.

WASTAGE OF PRECIOUS METALS.  
Apart from this factor of normal trade  
payments, it has also to be remembered  
that there has always been a consider-  
able wastage of the precious metals in  
India. Gold and silver have been much  
more extensively used in the industrial  
arts in that country than perhaps any-  
where else in the world. Leaving entire-  
ly out of question the manufacture of  
jewellery, those acquainted with the  
numerous art industries of cities like

Benares, Ahmedabad, Delhi and Luck-  
now will have some idea of the quantity  
of gold and silver consumed in these in-  
dustries in their halcyon days. Gold and  
silver have now largely replaced the pre-  
cious metals in the art industries. In  
jewellery and personal ornaments also  
there are fashions in the popular  
taste and all Indians know that the  
village goldsmiths and silversmiths are  
constantly occupied in melting down old  
jewellery and re-making them in new  
forms. There is always a loss in these  
transformations.

It is impossible to estimate the aggre-  
gate value of the gold and silver jewellery  
belonging to Indian women, but casual  
visitors are liable to fall into the error  
of a very serious over-estimate. The  
village women in all parts of India wear  
heavy loads of ornaments on their arms  
and ankles, but only an insignificant  
proportion of such ornaments is of silver.  
The art of giving a silver coating to  
inferior metals has been carried to a  
high finish in India, and the bright sun  
adds to the deception of the observer.

HOARDS NOT NUMEROUS.

It is exceedingly doubtful whether the  
actual number of hoards of coin and  
bullion in India is really large when  
allowance is made for the immense  
population and extent of the country.  
The political insecurity that prevailed  
in many large tracts of India until about  
a hundred years ago must have  
strengthened the instinct of hoarding,  
but it is equally certain that the secret  
of many hoards, both large and small, is  
now entirely unknown, and it is only  
accident that occasionally brings some  
of them to light. Under present  
conditions land-hunger is so strong  
among the peasants and all other  
classes in India that it must have  
already absorbed most of the substantial  
hoards that may have existed at the  
beginning of British rule. Famine and  
scarcity have always been familiar  
incidents in the economic life of India.  
It would be naturally expected that the  
pressure of a famine would release a  
large number of hoards. Neither  
detailed observation in the districts nor  
the returns of the currency department  
indicate that any such result has fol-  
lowed a famine during the last fifty  
years. The experience of the co-opera-  
tive credit societies also discredits the  
theory of the "countless hoards" of India.

AN AGGREGATE OF £100,000,000!

Life in India is so open, and the in-  
terest taken by Indians in the affairs of  
their neighbours is so notoriously keen,  
that it is almost impossible for anyone  
to possess anything like a big hoard  
without giving rise to rumours and  
suspicions. It is not therefore difficult,  
on evidence of this type, to make a  
shrewd guess of the probable number of  
hoards in a local area. In the Gangetic  
provinces, with which mostly I am  
familiar, a few large hoards are possessed  
by individuals here and there, and some

YOUR HEALTH AND  
APPEARANCE

both suffer if you are a victim to  
constipation. The remedy is

PINKETTES

the little gentle-as-nature laxative  
which dispels constipation, liveraches,  
bilious headaches, clears the complexion  
and purifies the blood. Of all chemists,  
or post free 8d. cents the "Vial" from  
Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 90 Sochen  
Road, Shanghai.

of the native States are credited as  
possessing substantial cash balances in  
their treasuries; but it is doubtful if the  
aggregate of such larger hoards will  
amount for the whole of India to more  
than a hundred millions sterling.

Consequently, there is little reason to  
anticipate that a rupee or two-rupee  
currency note will release a large num-  
ber of hoarded rupees. The illiterate  
peasant is not likely to prefer for his  
tiny hoard pieces of paper which he  
cannot read, and which are exceedingly  
liable to loss by fire and insects. The  
peasants' hoards will come to light only  
with the fullest development of co-  
operative credit. The owners of the  
bigger hoards will also see no advantage  
in substituting small-value notes for  
rupees. These larger hoards are being  
steadily converted into capital with the  
widening avenues of their profitable  
employment in the development of the  
country. In drawing out into the light  
of day both the smaller and the larger  
hoard an abiding belief in the continuity  
of a reign of law and order is also essen-  
tial.

THE INDUSTRIAL LESSONS OF  
THE WAR

To-day we are living on the threshold  
of new heavens and a new earth, and the  
Utopian dreams of the past are now  
possibilities, if not probabilities. Across  
the graves of our dead sons and brothers  
we see matters in a new light, and realise  
that their blood has been largely wasted  
if it only serves to crush Prussian hate  
while leaving class hatred as active as  
ever at home. In the trenches it  
has no existence. There is a mutual  
respect and goodwill between officers  
and men, with constant emulation  
in brave deeds and acts of kindness. In  
the ghastly realities of war petty ad-  
vantages and mean suspicions are seen  
in their true value, and are freely cast  
away as unbecomings in the great  
struggle towards victory. It would be  
grand if we could all undergo this ex-  
perience and realise that brotherhood of  
man which never shines so brightly as  
on the battlefield. That is impossible,  
but there is a feeling abroad that some  
approximation to it could and should be  
attained, and that in the first instance  
it should find expression in better rela-  
tions on both sides between master and  
man.—Engineering.

COUGHING INTO  
CONSUMPTION

"Only a Cough," but you stop  
it while it is ONLY a cough.

WATERBURY'S  
METABOLIZED  
COD LIVER OIL  
COMPOUND

The finest preparation made  
for combating severe coughs.  
CURES any cough that is  
only a cough. Very palatable  
OF ALL CHEMISTS.

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MALTED MILK(MALTED BARLEY, WHEAT,  
AND PURE FULL-CREAM MILK).

The Food Drink with all the Virtues.

1. Generates force and sustains it.
2. Gives strength and maintains it.
3. Easily digested and completely absorbed.
4. Delicious and refreshing.
5. Ready in a moment.
6. Suits all ages and conditions.
7. Keeps in all climates.

Supplied by all Chemists and Stores.  
in 3 Sizes, 1/4, 2 1/2 and 1 1/2 (in England).

Also available in Tablet form to  
be dissolved in the mouth.

HORLICK'S MALTED MILK CO., SLOUGH, BUCKS, ENG.

PRINTING OF EVERY  
DESCRIPTION

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MENUS

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Modern up-to-date plant operated by our own specially trained  
workmen under expert European supervision.All classes of Light Steel work manufactured by the above process.  
Tanks, Drums, Ventilators, Pipes, &c., &c.

THE DIMENSIONS OF DOCKS AND SLIPS ARE AS FOLLOWS					
NAME OF DOCK OR SLIP	LENGTH OF KEEL BLOCKS	DEPTH OF KEEL BLOCKS	DEPTH OF KEEL AT ORDINARY SPRING TIDE	RISE OF TIDE	SPRINGS
KOWLOON					
No. 1 Dock, Kowloon	707	10' 6" (to top of beam)	10'	7"	
No. 2 Dock, Kowloon	571	10' 6" (to top of beam)	10'	7"	
No. 3 Dock, Kowloon	571	10' 6" (to top of beam)	10'	7"	
Patent Slip, No. 1, Kowloon	571	10' 6" (to top of beam)	10'	7"	
TAL KUSTHUT					
Commodore's Dock	400	10'	10'	7"	
ASBURN					
Slip Dock	100	10'	10'	7"	
Access Dock	100	10'	10'	7"	

H.M. DYER, B.Sc., M.I.M.E., Kowloon Dock, Hongkong.  
Please Address Enquiries to the Chief Manager.

## INTIMATIONS



## YOUR EYES

SHOULD NOT BE NEGLECTED.

At the first symptom  
of eye strain you should  
consult us. We test  
eyes scientifically and fit  
glasses to individual re-  
quirements.

CLARK & Co.  
SCIENTIFIC OPTICIANS  
100, BLOOMSBURY, CHATER RD.  
HONGKONG

HONGKONG &amp; MANILA.



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COAL DEPARTMENT.

SOLE PROPRIETORS OF

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KISHIDAKE, YOSHINOYAMA,  
HOJO, YAMAZAKI, SAKO, KANADA,  
SHINNEW, KAMITAMADA, HIBAI  
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MANILA: Messrs Macdonald &amp; Co.

SINGAPORE: Messrs Borneo Co. Ltd.

GLASGOW: Messrs A. R. Brown, McFarlane &amp; Co., Ltd.

For Particulars, apply to

K. KATO,

Manager.

No. 2 PRINCE STREET,

HONGKONG.

## SINGON &amp; CO.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1890.

IRON STEEL METAL and HARD  
WARE MERCHANTS. Wholesale  
and Retail Ironmongers, Pig Iron and  
Foundry Castings. General Store-  
keepers and Shipchangers. No. 35, 37,  
39, HING POON STREET, (East Street, west  
of Central Market) Telephone No. 515.  
Hongkong September 4, 1915.



CONTAINS ALL THE NEWS  
OF THE WEEK:





# WATSON'S E THE PREMIER SCOTCH OF THE FAR EAST FOR 25 YEARS.

POPULARITY MAINTAINED BY ITS EXCELLENT  
QUALITY. NOT BY EXPENSIVE WORLD-WIDE  
ADVERTISING.

**A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,**  
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
HONGKONG.

## To-day's Advertisements.

**ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE BRIGADE**  
No. 1 HONGKONG V.A.D.

An examination on "First Aid" will be held by Dr. MACLEAN GIBSON at the Helena May Institute on THURSDAY, 14th instant at 10 a.m. W. WILKINSON, Acting Adjutant & Honorary Secretary, Hongkong, August 10, 1917. 2025

**THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.**

An interim dividend of ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00) per share for account 1917, will be payable on FRIDAY, the 24th August, 1917. Shareholders are requested to apply for dividend warrants at the Company's Office, 25 George Street, Hongkong. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 20th August, 1917, to FRIDAY, 24th August, 1917, both days inclusive.

**SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.**  
General Managers  
Hongkong, August 10, 1917. 2026

**HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.**  
NOTICE.

IN ACCORDANCE with the Provisions of No. 111 of the Articles of Association the General Managers have this day declared an INTERIM DIVIDEND for the half year ended 30th June, 1917, of TWO DOLLARS PER SHARE. DIVIDEND WARRANTS may be obtained on application at the Office of the Company on and after TUESDAY, 21st instant. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 10th to 20th instant, BOTH DAYS inclusive.

**JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.**  
General Managers  
Hongkong, August 10, 1917. 2024

## THE CALENDAR.

### MEMO FOR TO-MORROW.

10.30 a.m.—Auction of Household Linen, Brass-ware, etc., at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's.

### General Memoranda.

MONDAY, August 13.—11 a.m.—Auction of Condemned and Confiscated Goods and Gold and Silver Jewellery at the Central Police Station.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Dividend due.

2 p.m.—Auction of No. 7 Queen's Road Central at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's.

TUESDAY, August 14.—2.30 p.m.—Auction of Furniture, Curtains, Pictures, Pianos, etc. at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's.

WEDNESDAY, August 15.—H.K. Tramway Co. Dividend due. 11.30 a.m.—H.K. Steel Foundry Co's. Meeting.

THURSDAY, August 16.—12.15 p.m.—British Traders' Insurance Co's. Extraordinary Meeting.

FRIDAY, August 17.—Noon.—Auction of Kowloon Island Lot No. 200 at Mr. Geo. T. Laumer's Sales Rooms.

## THE CHINA MAIL TYPHOON MAP and GUIDE

Enables one to locate the centre of a Typhoon.

MOUNTED ON CARDBOARD AND  
TAPED FOR HANGING.

Price 50 Cents.

From the CHINA MAIL Office.

It will surely have the effect of prolonging the war if Germany continues to resist the demands of the nations arrayed against her—demands which, sooner or later, however, she will be compelled to concede.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Hongkong Rope Co., Ltd., announces an interim dividend of \$1 per share.

The Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd., announces an interim dividend of \$2 per share.

Exchange reached 2/8 7/16 demand this morning, a rise of a farthing over yesterday's closing rate.

A list published in the Bangkok papers show that 191 Germans and Austrians have been interned in Siam.

Mr. C. W. Thurlow of the Military Hospital in Bowen Road has reported to the Police that his son, 14 years old, has been missing since the 31st inst.

Whilst a coal coolie was climbing aboard a Japanese steamer in the harbour he fell overboard and was drowned. The body has not yet been recovered.

The assistant manager of the Sincere Company has reported to the Police that a shop coolie, who had collected \$432 from other shops dealing with the firm, has absconded.

Mr. G. H. Andron, the accountant of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at Bangkok, has taken over pro tem the management of the Siam Commercial Bank, on the interment of Mr. Willock, an enemy subject.

In our list of handicaps for the H.K.C.C. Summer Tennis Tournament, published in last night's issue, the handicaps for Cary and de Rome and Green and Cobb should have been *minus* ten, and not as given in the list.

One pair of binoculars from Mr. R. Aitken, Taihook Sugar Refinery, is now to be added to the list of glasses received for forwarding to the Manager of the Lady Roberts' Field Glass Fund. Glasses to be included in the parcel now awaiting despatch should reach the Hon. Secretary (the Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax) not later than to-day, 10th inst.

### "OUR DAY."

Lord Lansdowne has again issued an appeal throughout the Empire for the celebration of the 18th October, "Our Day." The Red Cross work is now costing £8,000 a day, and tends to increase rather than diminish. The necessity therefore for all sympathisers to make a ready response to this appeal is more than ever required. In Hongkong it is intended to follow the precedent which was so successful a year ago. There will be a Rose Day, and the arrangements for a Fair in the afternoon are now in progress.

### THE ENEMY SHIPS IN SIAM.

The ships taken over by the Siamese authorities consist of the following:

Steamships	Net Tonn. Reg.
Stamulok	1,257
Kohsiang	1,202
Saracen	598
Chiangmai	1,080
Fatuni	1,086
Deli	725
Petchaburi	1,373
Travellers	2,532
Landat Schiff	1,012
Steam Lighters	
Tachet	248
Menam	271
Petrieu	289
Chantaboon	299
Changpakong	299
Tuen	42
Cyclops	13
Undine	13
Steel Barges	Piculs.
Leaum	5,000
Vesack	5,000
Bremerhaven	8,400
Leho	8,400
Burg	5,000
Oestemunde	8,400
And two large coal hulks at Kohsi-Chang.	

All were taken safely in charge within half an hour or so and the Siamese naval ensign was flying from their main-masts and jack-staffs.

### ARE YOU GOING ON A JOURNEY?

CHAMBERLAIN'S Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy should be packed in your hand luggage when going on a journey. Changes of water, diet, and temperature all tend to produce bowel trouble, and this medicine cannot be secured on board the train or steamship. It may save much suffering and inconvenience if you have it handy. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

## AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

[Chinese Mail Service.]

### WAR COUNCILS ESTABLISHED.

PEKING, Aug. 9. War Councils have been established in all Government departments in anticipation of a declaration of war, within ten days.

### CABINET CHANGES.

PEKING, June 9. It is expected that there will many further changes in the Cabinet. Tao Yu Lin will take up the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Wang Ta Shit will be Minister of Communications and Liang Chi Chao may be appointed Chief of the War Bureau. The Ministry of Finance will temporarily be in charge of Haining Hsi Ling, but Tuan Chi Jui is in favour of either Liang Shi Yi or Chow Tsz Chi being appointed to this office.

### DEADLOCK IN LOAN NEGOTIATIONS.

PEKING, Aug. 9. The loan negotiations have reached a deadlock. In the meantime, Liang Chi Chao is trying to get money from all quarters. The Salt surplus is insufficient to cover the running expenses.

### BANK OF CHINA NOTES.

PEKING, Aug. 9. Bank of China notes are quoted at thirty per cent. discount, and they have a tendency to drop further.

### DISCUSSIONS BY THE CABINET.

SHANGHAI, Aug. 9. A Cabinet meeting on the 7th inst. discussed the following matters:—A compromise with Luik Wing Ting and Chan Pin Kwan, who insist that Li Yuan Hung should resign office; the re-convening of Parliament; to use force to settle the trouble in Szechuen; to assume a state of war towards Austria; and whether China shall send troops to Europe to assist in the fighting, as America is doing.

After war is declared, Liang Kai Chiu will apply for a pardon on behalf of Chan Kum Tao. The Minister of Finance who was recently sentenced to a term of imprisonment on a charge of receiving bribes.

### THE HANYANG ARSENAL.

SHANGHAI, Aug. 9. The Government has decided to enlarge the Hanyang arsenal for the purpose of manufacturing munitions.

### THE PROVISIONAL SENATE.

SHANGHAI, Aug. 9. A Provisional Senate will be convened under the following regulations:—Each province will send three representatives and each special administrative district two representatives. The necessary qualifications of the representatives will be decided by the Minister of the Interior. The sessions will not exceed one year.

The confirmation of the Cabinet's declaration of war, the Budget, modification of Parliamentary Law and the organisation of a Parliament will be among the chief matters to come before the Senate.

### THE DECLARATION OF WAR.

SHANGHAI, Aug. 9. It has been definitely decided that the declaration of war will be promulgated on August 13.

### THE BIG LOAN.

SHANGHAI, Aug. 9. The terms of the big loan are as follows:—The amount shall be \$100,000,000 and shall be used for reorganisation purposes and for the redemption of the former foreign loans; only the Salt surplus shall be the security and payment shall be made at the rate of 95% in four instalments, each of 25,000,000,000, repayment to begin from the fifth year.

### NICKNAMES OF BRITISH GENERALS.

An American correspondent at the front writes:—Popularity is the forerunner of a nickname in the British Army. Soldiers still think of Lord Roberts as "Bobs," and of Kitchener always as "K." or "K of K." Sir Douglas Haig to the British private is never anything but "D. H." Sir William Robertson, the Chief of Staff, is always "Wally." General Sir Robert Whigham's army nickname is "Wigwag." General Sir Hubert Gough is "Goffy," and General Allenby is "The Bull." No one ever thinks of General Rawlinson except as "Billy." For "soldier" made rejoices in the title "The Stranger."

## THE MAGISTRACY.

### FIGHTING IN DES VUEX ROAD CENTRAL.

Two Chinese coolies were brought before Mr. Dyer Ball this morning on the charge of fighting in Des Vaux Road Central, opposite the Wing On Company's premises. His Worship fined each defendant \$5, and bound them both over on a personal bond of \$50 each to keep the peace for six months.

### THEFT OF MILK BOTTLES.

A Chinese was this morning sentenced to six weeks' hard labour by Mr. Dyer Ball on the charge of stealing three of the Dairy Farm Company's milk bottles from the side channel in Oakland's Terrace.

### TAPPING A WATER MAIN.

Mr. Dyer Ball this morning fined a Chinese fish dealer \$50 on the charge of tapping a water main in the Central Market.

### DUMPING RUBBISH IN BOWEN ROAD.

Inspector Fisher of the Sanitary Department charged a Chinese with dumping rubbish in Bowen Road. After hearing the case Mr. Wood imposed a fine of \$3.

### CONTRABAND OPIUM.

In Mr. Wool's Court this morning a Chinese was charged with possession of seven tael of prepared opium other than Government opium. It was stated that the defendant was arrested by a Chinese revenue officer whilst boarding a Kongmoon steamer with the opium in his possession. In answer to the charge the defendant said a man had paid him twenty cents to carry the contraband to the Lee Kee Wharf. His Worship imposed a fine of \$250, with the alternative of three months' hard labour.

### GARNERING IN THE GERMANS AT BANGKOK.

A FEW INTERLUDES.  
The Bangkok Daily Mail says:—The work of garnering in the enemy aliens has not been without its humorous side, although it will hardly strike any of them in that light, especially since, to judge by the German comic papers, anything is to be considered funny must be either indecent or hopelessly vulgar. The cities of the gendarmes and military on Sunday morning were of too serious a nature to permit of any levity, but we can imagine those possessed of humour will indulge in a good many hearty chuckles as they recall many of the little events that took place.

As a general thing, we understand, the enemy aliens accepted their fate with resignation, some indeed seem to have put on an air of relief. As one police officer puts it, "the only thing that bothered me was the crying women and children." Among the more amusing of the little contretemps may be included the following:—A well-known German resident, who is a polyglot linguist and of literary tastes, was discovered in a somewhat alcoholic condition near Sam Yek by a very highly-placed police officer, who proceeded to arrest him, whereupon the victim, circumstanced with a, "My dear Chao Kian, my dear old friend, I'm glad to have met you. Of course I'll come," flung his arms around the embarrassed officer's neck and kissed him twice.

One German, from Pitsanulok was quietly walking along the street when he was pointed out to the police. He was arrested, lamenting the fact that as he had only come to Bangkok on the briefest of trips he had brought no luggage, not even a change of clothing or a razor.

An employee of the Customs stationed at Koh-i-Chang arrived thence on Sunday morning and proceeded with his luggage to the residence of some relative. He arrived there just in time to find two of them being brought out under police escort and to get gathered in himself.

One man, having got some distance on the road to the concentration camp, discovered that he had left his walking stick at home and vainly endeavored to persuade the officer in whose charge he was to take him back on the ground that he never came out without it. An interesting fact about the arrests was that no motor-cars were hired from the regular licensed garages, all being borrowed or otherwise requisitioned.

### SUPPLIED BY ALL CHEMISTS.

PHYSICIAN prescribes Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy because it relieves cramps in the stomach and intestinal pains quicker than any preparation they can compound. It can be bought from any chemist. A bottle will keep for years, and no home is complete without it. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

## WAR SAVINGS.

### THE HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

#### EIGHTH LIST.

Members whose official numbers are given below subscribed the following amounts to this Association. The moneys have all been invested in Straits War Loan at 6 per cent. Full particulars and application forms may be had from all the Banks or from the undersigned.

\$8,870.—No. 685.

5,000.—No. 618.

2,800.—No. 47, 607.

2,000.—No. 608, 203.

1,000.—No. 317, 682, 437, 604, 219.

900.—No. 377.

850.—No. 210.

790.—No. 78.

600.—No. 886, 250, 600, 880.

580.—No. 683, 60.

550.—No. 711.

500.—No. 247, 353, 238, 601, 1, 32.

500.—No. 234, 501, 15, 220, 401.

400.—No. 17, 357, 247, 334, 707.

380.—No. 684, 387, 387.

350.—No. 430.

300.—No. 802, 414, 184, 396, 429.

250.—No. 602.

250.—No. 350, 291, 611, 479, 530.

210.—No. 438, 365, 530, 475.

240.—No. 14.

230.—No. 690.

225.—No. 700.

210.—No. 603.

200.—No. 382, 640, 554, 624, 36, 405.

145, 440, 449, 457, 607, 701.

430, 357, 335, 371, 668.

175.—No. 604.

170.—No. 450.

160.—No. 553, 215, 702.

150.—No. 505, 590, 647, 14, 120, 549.

507-567.

130.—No. 224, 512, 218.

125.—No. 288, 632.

120.—No. 452, 95.

115.—No. 602.

100.—No. 296, 42, 404, 29, 19, 29.

93, 303, 686, 14, 178, 246.

450, 478, 556, 610, 703, 118.

125, 274, 275, 473, 537, 548.

710, 582, 240, 378, 453, 502.

252, 711, 300, 634, 487, 42.

325, 710.

90.—No. 481, 84.

85.—No. 490.

80.—No. 31, 86, 115.

75.—No. 38, 102, 103, 104, 115, 122.

144, 165, 712.

70.—No. 648, 124, 310.

60.—No. 339, 240, 650, 77, 290, 410.

600, 215.

50.—No. 254, 224, 295, 687, 688.

689, 46, 105, 108, 471, 472.

45, 98, 204, 388, 681, 117.

119, 126, 130, 137, 277, 141.

140, 232-219, 250, 166, 254.

656, 99, 221, 314, 401, 628.

304, 690, 677.

40.—No. 604, 639, 269, 541, 135.

20, 709, 700.

35.—No. 696, 298, 587.

30.—No. 406, 75, 79, 110, 255, 124.

131, 279, 31, 638, 636, 486.

25.—No. 24, 195, 71, 108, 107, 111.

113, 213, 88, 120, 675, 128.

276, 130, 133, 134, 138, 142.

145, 279, 19, 424, 212, 50.

67, 80.

20.—No. 72, 70, 78, 270, 271, 84.

228, 231, 419, 506, 123, 143.

147, 150, 287, 180, 292, 246.

517, 538, 598, 292, 63, 67.

305.

15.—No. 114, 154, 155, 704, 705.

132, 140, 329, 246.

10.—No. 185, 103, 243, 207, 199.

353, 370, 19, 229, 8, 56, 172.

364, 370, 573, 262, 407-121.

474, 130, 54, 55, 469, 189.

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# TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

## STANDARDISING METAL PARTS OF AEROPLANES.

New York, August 9.  
The first meeting of the International Inquiry Committee to standardise metal parts of aeroplanes was attended by British, French, American, Canadian and Italian representatives.

It is proposed to reduce thousands of varying parts to a few standard shapes, and thus enormously increase aircraft production.

## AN AMERICAN WAR AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMME.

Washington, August 9.  
The Government announces an immediate war agricultural programme, increasing the acreage sufficiently to produce 1,250,000,000 bushels of wheat and 83,000,000 bushels of rye.

## THE AUSTRALIAN BUDGET.

Melbourne, Aug. 9.  
In the House of Representatives the Treasurer, Sir John Forrest, introducing the Budget, stated that the revenue last year was £107,880,000, including war loans amounting to £70,841,000, and the expenditure £88,032,000, including war expenditure amounting to £61,596,000.

## CHINA TEA IN GREAT BRITAIN.

London, Aug. 9.  
In the House of Commons, replying to Sir R. W. Essex, Mr. Roberts, Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, representing the Board of Trade, said that the stocks of China tea in the United Kingdom bonded warehouses on July 31 totalled 7,208,000 pounds. The Board of Trade had issued instructions to release the tea detained owing to the absence of import licences.

Replying to Mr. G. Stewart, Mr. Roberts said that the refusal of the Board of Trade to allow the delivery of tea brought and paid for by British merchants in China before the date of the prohibition of import, was due to the fact that the consignments had not been shown as paid for by the importers or that they had been in transit before the prohibition. He was not yet satisfied that the consignments were entitled to admission, by reference to the circumstances of payment or despatch, but the consignments would be released in view of the price of tea and its tendency to deteriorate by keeping.

## THE SILVER MARKET.

New York, Aug. 9.  
The price of bar silver is the highest for 30 years. There has been heavy Government buying, estimated at 500,000 ounces weekly. European countries are also heavy buyers.

The June exports to the Orient have been revised and now total 7,789,000 ounces.

London, August 9.  
Silver is quoted at 41½.  
Offerings are small and the market is steady.

## A REPORT DENIED.

London, Aug. 9.  
The report that Sir A. Keogh, the Director General of the Army Medical Service, had resigned, is denied.

## MISSIONER'S APPEAL AGAINST COMPULSORY SERVICE.

Mr. De Grey, the West London magistrate, has held that a London City Missioner is liable for military service. Mr. Frank Taylor, of the Estcourt-road Mission, Fulham, was the defendant, and it was contended for the defence that he had been duly ordained, according to the rules of the London City Mission.

Mr. De Grey, after perusing the rules, observed: "I see a candidate has to be a total abstainer, a non-smoker, and must not get into debt. He must also have a good knowledge of the Bible, and I am afraid I would have some difficulty in passing the examination." (Laughter.)

A nominal fine of £1 was imposed, and Mr. De Grey directed that Mr. Taylor should be handed over to military escort. Notice of appeal was given.

# EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

## A TRANSPORT DISASTER.

## FINDINGS OF AN OFFICIAL INQUIRY.

London, August 8.  
The Board of Trade inquiry into the loss of the transport *Monah*, found that the collision was due to the master of the steamship *Tarro* not complying with the fog regulations, also that he unreasonably failed to sound out boats to ascertain the extent of the damage, and to render assistance. His certificate was suspended for one year.

[The transport *Monah*, with the final batch of South African native labourers, collided with another vessel in a thick fog off the Isle of Wight on February 21st. Twelve Europeans and 191 natives were saved; 10 Europeans and 615 natives were drowned.]

## THE FATE OF GERMAN RAIDERS.

London, Aug. 8.  
In the House of Commons Mr. R. P. Houston asked for information regarding the German raider *Kiwi* in the Indian Ocean, and the raiders *Seoulter*, *Meer*, *Fenela*, *Pym* and others lately operating in the Atlantic, of which nothing recently had been heard.

Mr. Macnamara stated that the Admiralty was not without knowledge of the movements or fate of these vessels, but disclosure of that knowledge might be valuable to the enemy.

## THE P. & O. AND AUSTRALIA.

Melbourne, June 29.  
The announcement that the P. & O. service to Australia would be suspended indefinitely next month caused something more than a mild sensation. So far as the public are permitted to know the mails for England will be despatched via the United States or Canada with an occasional despatch at long intervals, in South Africa. Precisely how the Ceylon and India mail services will be conducted is not known, but many explanations are in circulation, most of which however are too ridiculous to notice. The most feasible statement, and one that the postal officials have not contradicted, is that when freight steamers are returning to Colombo and Valparaíso they will be avoided of, and the services of the Royal Dutch Mail Packet Co. to convey mail matter as far as Singapore, and be there forwarded on to Colombo by the P. & O. opportunity.

As it was not to be assumed that the P. & O. will cease all connection with Australia as the purchase of the Union Company of New Zealand fleet of steamers will prevent that. However there has arisen in the Dominion much opposition to the merging, as the Union company has become to be regarded in the light of a national concern. An agitation has been started now for the establishment of a State-owned steamship line in view of the absorption by the P. & O. of the Union Co. It does not seem that anything will result in view of the financial outlook; still the movement is not without interest.

The sinking of the R.M.S. "Mongolia" has created a most painful impression. "The Herald" announced yesterday that this fine vessel was to be the last of the regular mail steamers of the P. & O. service, and would have left Australia towards the end of next month.

In the meantime as Mr. Hughes pointed out at Sydney, last week, the shipping situation is becoming acute, and he is working with tremendous energy to establish ship-building in the Commonwealth. He is faced now with the difficulty of shipping the vast stocks of wheat. Whether it will be sent to the Pacific Coast to replace what the United States may dispatch to Europe is discussed, and the cables this morning indicate that the authorities at Washington are paying much attention to the same subject.

## A DOG STORY FROM THE BATTLEFIELD.

Somewhere in France a dog waits—has been waiting since August, 1914—for the return of his master, and the latter will never return, for he lies sleeping where he fell—in one of the bitter battles of the great war. The story is told by the "Figaro." A peasant from the Puy-de-Dôme joined his regiment at Riom when the mobilization began. He took his dog with him and they were inseparable until the day came for the man to leave for the front. When the train steamed away, Canon, for that was the dog's name, remained looking wistfully at it as it receded, dwindled away to a mere spot on the horizon and then disappeared, carrying his master out of his sight for ever.

But Canon's faith in the power of his master's love to reunite them one day is stronger than the will of nations, and he refuses to leave the station at Riom. Upon the arrival of each train he dashes out on to the platform, runs first to the locomotive and then scampers from carriage to carriage, looking for the object of his affection—until the whistle blows and he is left to gaze wistfully as he did once in 1914.

# AMERICA'S ARMY FOR FRANCE.

The "Bulletin des Armes" issues the following statement relative to the military measures taken by America—

On June 5th the registration of all males between the ages of 21 and 30 years was effected. From this list 2,000,000 men will be chosen.

America will soon send to France five regiments of engineers, an expeditionary corps of marines and a division comprising more than 20,000 men ready to fight. If to this number is added the Americans already serving in the French and British armies, there will soon be 100,000 American troops at the front, the equivalent of several German divisions.

By August the National Guard will number 400,000 men, an increase of 250,000 men. The regular army already has been increased to more than 180,000 men, and the personnel of the navy has been doubled by voluntary enlistment.

Sixteen instruction camps have been formed, where 40,000 young Americans are receiving intense instruction for the privilege of taking officers' examinations. More than 6,000 young men are being trained to become aviators.

Floillas of destroyers have been sent into the submarine zone, where they are now co-operating with the Allies. Thousands of doctors and nurses have received orders to proceed to France and England.

An industrial mobilization has been effected and 262,000 miles of railroads will be sent to the French front. Aviation factories are constructing 8,500 aeroplanes.

In addition America has given and will continue to give financial, economic, industrial and technical support to her Allies.

## STRENGTH OF AMERICA'S FIRST ARMY.

The Philadelphia "Public Ledger" publishes the following table of the effectiveness of the first American army—16 Infantry divisions, each comprising 9,134 officers and 27,213 men; 16 Cavalry divisions, each having 2,311 officers and 222 men; 64 Field hospitals; 2 Cavalry divisions, each comprising 2,400 officers and 238 men; 6 Field hospitals; a sanitary section of 288 officers and 100 men; coast artillery, 600 officers and 20,000 men; 16 brigades of field artillery, each comprising 48 officers and 1,319 men; 8 aviation squadrons, each comprising 10 officers and 154 men; 8 balloon companies, each comprising 6 officers and 73 men; 10 ambulance companies, each comprising 5 officers and 150 men; 22 field bakeries, each comprising 1 officer and 60 men; 6 battalions of telephonists, each comprising 10 officers and 215 men; 6 ammunition trains, each comprising 4 officers and 452 soldiers; 6 reconvalescent trains, each comprising 2 officers and 126 soldiers.

Regular army soldiers and selected National Guard-men will drill and train the first 150,000 recruits. "Havas."

## AMERICA'S GROWING ARMY.

Washington, D.C., June 24.—More than half a million men have volunteered in the American army and navy during the period of less than three months that has elapsed since war was declared to exist between the United States and Germany.

The army, navy and National Guard represented an aggregate strength of more than three hundred thousand men when the war resolution was adopted. To-day between 700,000 and 800,000 are engaged in the various branches of the fighting service and the great majority of them are armed, equipped and under training.

They will be joined at the end of the summer by nearly a million men, selected for the new national army from the millions registered for war during June 5.

The regular army totalling a little more than one hundred thousand men three months ago; it is now nearing the 200,000 mark today, and War Department officials, backed by the press of the country, are bending every effort to bring it up to 300,000 during the present week.

The National Guard, 150,000 strong when war came, numbers nearly two hundred and sixty thousand today, according to the best estimates available. Of that number, nearly seventy-five thousand actually are under arms, guarding against German plotters and doing their work in a thorough and soldierly way, as shown by the trivial damage the plotters have been able to inflict.

# ARRAS AND MESSINES.

## THE SPRING OFFENSIVE.

A REVIEW.  
[By COL. REPINGTON, MILITARY CORRESPONDENT OF THE "TIMES".]  
London, June 23.

The full story of the military events in France during the spring 1917, and subsequent to the period covered by Sir Douglas Haig's despatch of May 31, cannot be told until we have the despatches of the various commanders before us. But the part played in these events by the five British Armies under Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig has been so important that their role so unexpectedly preponderant, and their action so clear-cut and complete, in the last of the great battles of the spring, that it is almost impossible to take with no more than passing reference to the action of our Allies, concerning some of whose proceedings we are still without complete information.

Let us recall a few leading events and dates. The Lloyd George Administration was formed in December, 1916. In the same month General, now Marshal, Joffre was replaced in the Command-in-Chief of the French Armies by General Nivelle, who fell on March 11, 1917. The Russian Revolution broke out on March 12, reducing the Russian Armies to inactivity, which has since continued. On March 18, M. Briand resigned, and was succeeded by M. Ribot. On April 6, the United States declared war on Germany. On April 16 the French attack in the Rheims region began, and on May 14, the British began their offensive on the Somme front. Early in May General Petain succeeded General Nivelle and General Foch became Chief of the Staff at Paris. These events all had their influence, varying in kind and in degree, upon the British spring campaign of 1917, the inception of which, as well as that of the German retreat from the Somme front, we can trace back to a date prior to any of the events above named.

The Allied Armies in the West, at the close of the winter campaign described in Sir Douglas Haig's despatch of May 31, were in a state of great strength and spirit. They were numerically superior to the enemy, and their advantage in gun armament, particularly in field artillery, was marked. But the Germans were also strong. Their losses on the Somme were made up, and the number of their divisions increased between December 1916 and March 1917, while many heavy guns arrived from the Russian front. From these resources the German Higher Command was able to amass in the West a general reserve of some 52 divisions early in April, and it was clear to many from the first, and became clear to others later, that such superiority of the Allies possessed in France was insufficient to promise decisive victory, though much could be hoped from the reasoned and limited offensive by making full use of superior armaments and improved tactics.

## THE GERMAN RETREAT.

The Allied plan was based upon a project of General Joffre's formed before his supersession in the supreme command. It aimed at an attack on a broad front of the French and British Armies side by side, and an early date was assigned to the advance, so that the enemy might be deprived of the initiative. Before this date came round the Germans began their retreat from the Somme, the immediate result of which was to leave the British Fourth and Fifth Armies, and also the French army on their immediate right, with no enemies in fixed positions on their front. This changed the situation in an important manner, but General Nivelle's plan was not materially altered. On the front evacuated by the Germans the British pressed forward, by the stages described in Sir Douglas Haig's last despatch, until they came up against positions where the enemy had decided to stand. The resourceful leading of Sir Henry Rawlinson, and Sir Hubert Gough in following up the enemy over a completely devastated country, and in restoring the ruined communications, deserves all the praise which the Field-Marshal gave to it. Our men were delighted to get out of the wet trenches and to resume open fighting, and during the weeks of the pursuit much fine work was done by the two Armies, as well as by the French on our right.

The German decision to retreat was probably formed in principle in December last, and was the result of the hammering on the Somme and the Aisne, which had left the German Armies in front of our Fourth and Fifth Armies in no position to resist a fresh assault. Pressure by Sir Hubert Gough about Miramont was the immediate cause of the retreat, which certainly saved a part of the German Armies temporarily from annihilation, but also gave us a wide stretch of territory without much cost and had a moral effect altogether to our advantage. The aspect of the devastated country convinced the weakest minds that no compromise with such barbarians as the Germans was open to us, and did much to confirm the people of France in their resolution to continue the war with the utmost vigour.

The three stages of the renewed attack are marked by the dates of April 23, April 28, and May 3. On the first date the Third Army, and by one Army the Fifth, attacked the German front on a broad front from Croisilles to the north of Gavrelle. The latter village was captured, and also 2½ miles of trenches to the south of the village as far as Roux Cemetery. The Third Army pushed it forward east and south of the village, and took Guernon. On April 28 the First Army attacked on a front of several miles north of Scarpe and stormed Arleux. On May 3 the Third Army, and parts of the First and Fifth, attacked from the west of Quantin to the north of Fresnoy. On this day and on the days following up to June 9, the Battle of Bullecourt fell to the Fifth Army after a prolonged struggle. Roux was eventually cleared, a large section of the Hindenburg line between Bullecourt and Fontaineles Croisilles was stormed, and ground was gained south of the "Sonnech River and on the slopes of Greenland Hill.

The gain of ground was less important than the character of the fighting, which completely changed in this second phase of the battle. Time had been gained by the enemy to bring up his reserves, including many guns and from the first hours of the fight on April 23 it was evident that the Germans had received orders to conduct their defence aggressively and regardless of loss. On the whole front the hostile trenches were full of troops and machine-guns, and counter-attacks of a determined character were made whenever they were possible. On nearly all the front, except in the beds of the river,

the ground is open and undulating, and as we had now the best of the ground and a superior artillery in good positions with excellent observation, the German losses were immense. Gavrelle was bitterly counter-attacked again and again, but the First Army held on there gamely, while the Third Army literally covered the ground in front of it with German corpses. In this hard and bitter fighting, much of it hand-to-hand, the battle swayed this way and that, but not one of the German attacks effected anything serious either on the 23rd or on the days following, while the battle still raged furiously, and it was the writer's opinion, which he found to be shared by the Field-Marshal, that the Germans had never suffered such losses on the front in such a short time since the over-memorable first battle of Ypres. The fighting on April 28 and the days following was of the same character, and on May 3 we found against us all the pick of the German fighters—namely, the Guards, Bavarians, Saxons, Bismarck, East Prussians, Silesians, Rhinelanders, and various other tribes. Against such opposition progress was practically impossible, but on the other hand the army accomplished nothing, and used up his reserves fast, and, except in the single case of Fresnoy, never recaptured one of his lost positions. He fought desperately to regain Monchy, and failed again and again. The fighting on April 28 and the days following was of the same character, and on May 3 we found against us all the pick of the German fighters—namely, the Guards, Bavarians, Saxons, Bismarck, East Prussians, Silesians, Rhinelanders, and various other tribes. 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**MR. LI HUN FAN**, a Chinese gentleman, retired in literature, has been a teacher to European students and merchants in this Colony for ten years. He has a good knowledge of the Chinese language and a first rate certificate as a Chinese teacher. He has also a good knowledge of Mandarin and Hakka. Those who have learned the Chinese language are requested to write to "The China Mail" Office or direct to Mr. Li, 11, Wellington Street, Hongkong.

[1251]

## FRENCH LESSONS

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I—Authorized Capital £8,000,000  
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II—Fire Funds—£3,897,047  
III—Life & Annuity Funds—£17,607,830  
Sinking Fund Account—£23,970,367

Revenue Fire Branch—£2,381,456  
Life and Annuity—£2,141,593  
Branches—£1,141,593

Revenue Marine Department—£37,239  
Other Receipts—£78,940  
£5,339,228

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## EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, August 10, 1917.

On London—  
Bank Wire—2/8 1/2  
On Demand—2/8 7/16  
30 days sight—2/8 9/16  
4 months sight—2/8 11/16  
Credits, 4 months sight—2/9  
Documentary, 4 months sight—2/9 1/2

On Paris—  
On Demand—3/4  
Credits, 1 month sight—3/4 1/2  
On New York—  
On Demand—84 1/2  
Credits, 30 days sight—84 1/2

On Bombay—  
On Demand—nom.  
On Calcutta—  
On Demand—nom.

On Singapore—  
On Demand—115  
On Manila—  
On Demand—128 1/2

On Shanghai—  
On Demand—nom.  
30 days sight (private paper)—nom.

On Yokohama—  
On Demand—125 1/2  
Gold Leaf, 100 fine (per tael)—42.80  
Silver (per oz.)—42.1/16 d.

Bar Silver in Hongkong—20 1/2 nom.  
Chinese Copper Cash—1/2 p.m.  
Chinese Copper Cent—1/2 p.m.  
Rate of Native Interest—1/2 p.m.  
Chinese Sub. Coin—2 1/2 d. dia.  
Hongkong Sub. Coin—2 p.m.

## HONGKONG TIDES.

The tide-table given below has been compiled at the National Almanac Office in London from the result of the analysis of observations taken by means of an automatic tide-recording machine in the Water Police Basin at Tsim Sha Tsui during the years 1874-8.

The zero of the table corresponds with the zero of the sounding in the Admiralty Chart, which has been found to be 4 feet 3 inches below mean sea level.

To obtain the depth of water on the tide gauge at the Victoria Naval Yard add 3 feet 4 inches, and on the gauge at Lamont Dock, Aberdeen add 10 feet 4 inches to the height given in the table.

August 11th to 17th 1917.

Day of Week	Date	HIGH WATER			LOW WATER		
		Hongkong Mean Time.	Mean	Height.	Hongkong Mean Time.	Mean	Height.
		h	m	feet.	h	m	feet.
Mon.	11	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Tues.	12	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Wed.	13	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Thurs.	14	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Friday	15	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Sat.	16	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Sund.	17	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Mon.	18	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Tues.	19	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Wed.	20	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Thurs.	21	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Friday	22	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Sat.	23	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Sund.	24	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Mon.	25	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Tues.	26	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Wed.	27	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Thurs.	28	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Friday	29	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Sat.	30	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5
Sund.	31	3	30.0	6.0	11	10.0	2.5